

one thousand eight hundred and seventy-four, and every year thereafter annually, and shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified: *Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall be construed so as to prevent an election being held as provided for in section three of this act.

Vacancies.

SEC. 14. That in the event of a vacancy occurring in the board of commissioners the remaining members shall fill the vacancy.

Compensation.

SEC. 15. That the commissioners of said town shall be authorized and empowered to allow reasonable compensation to the officers herein provided for.

When in force.

SEC. 16. This act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

Ratified this 18th day of December, A. D. 1873.

## CHAPTER XXIII.

### AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE TOWN OF HICKORY, IN THE COUNTY OF CATAWBA.

Body politic.

SECTION, 1. *The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact*, That the inhabitants of the town of Hickory Tavern residing within one thousand yards of the depot warehouse of the Western North Carolina Railroad, situate therein, shall continue to be as heretofore a body corporate, under the name and style of the "town of Hickory," and under such name, is hereby invested with all the privileges, immunities and franchises, property and all other rights heretofore belonging or in any wise appertaining to the town of Hickory Tavern, within the above mentioned bounds, and in and by that name may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, acquire and hold property, real or personal, for the use of the town, as its board of commissioners may deem necessary or expedient.